

HOUSE RESOLUTION 301
By Fowlkes

A RESOLUTION paying tribute to Katie Carvell and Ittalo Clark,
CoChampions of the 2004 Giles County Spelling
Bee.

WHEREAS, if champions are truly made, not born, then two of Tennessee's most
precocious citizens have achieved greatness at a very early age; and

WHEREAS, Katie Clark, a nine-year-old third grader at Southside Elementary School,
and Ittalo Clark, a nine-year-old third grader at Elkton Elementary School, earned the
acclamation of their peers, the respect of their teachers, and the adoration of their devoted
public when they were jointly crowned as Champions of the 2004 Giles County Spelling Bee;
and

WHEREAS, 39 third graders from across Giles County, representing Southside, Elkton,
Minor Hill, and Richland Elementary schools, comprised one of the most competitive fields ever
assembled for this august event; and

WHEREAS, the air crackled with the electricity of nervous energy on that fateful day of
February 24, 2004, when the Giles County Spelling Bee was held; and

WHEREAS, locked up head-to-head in tight competition for several rounds, Miss Carvell
and Mr. Clark performed like veritable walking dictionaries, correctly spelling some of the least
recognizable and most difficult words in the English language; and

WHEREAS, despite the stupendous performance of both of these worthies, neither
gladiator could gain a secure foothold to claim ultimate victory; and

WHEREAS, finally, after several grueling rounds of intense competition between these
two spectacular spellers, with neither giving an inch to the opponent nor delivering a knockout
punch, a truce was negotiated and Miss Carvell and Mr. Clark were jointly crowned as Spelling
Champions of Giles County, if not the world; and

WHEREAS, the split decision was met with the thunderous approval of the multitude of aficionados in attendance and a commingled sense of relief and elation by Miss Carvell and Mr. Clark; and

WHEREAS, some time in their bright futures, either one or both of these stellar scholars may walk on the Moon, serve in Congress, or win Wimbledon, but neither of them will ever again bask in the glory or attain the level of ecstasy they experienced as Champions of the 2004 Giles County Spelling Bee; and

WHEREAS, Miss Carvell's and Mr. Clark 's achievements are indeed splendid, and our homage to them should be equally lavish; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Katie Carvell and Ittalo Clark upon being jointly crowned Champions of the 2004 Giles County Spelling Bee, even as we pay tribute to their stalwart commitment to excellence as students and their strict adherence to the cardinal academic principle, "I before E, except after C."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express to Miss Carvell and Mr. Clark our most sincere hope that they enjoy their championship laurels for a spell and wish them much continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.